

Town of



Town Hall
4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002

AMHERST *Massachusetts*

Select Board
Phone: (413) 259-3001
Fax: (413)-259-2405
Email: selectboard@amherstma.gov

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the town of Amherst, Massachusetts, lies between 25 And 30 air miles south of the Entergy Nuclear corporation's Vermont Yankee nuclear power reactor in Vernon, Vermont; and

WHEREAS the residents of Amherst and other neighboring towns have an inalienable right to have their voices heard regarding possible threats to the health, safety, and general well-being of themselves, their property, and the surrounding environment arising from the continued operation of the Vermont Yankee reactor;

WHEREAS the people of Amherst, and people everywhere, want a safe, renewable, and affordable energy supply for themselves and future generations;

WHEREAS we recognize that shutting down Vermont Yankee could increase our reliance on other dangerous, destructive and unsustainable sources of power; and

WHEREAS Amherst is actively taking the steps to replace the power that would have been supplied to it by Vermont Yankee and so make it unnecessary to shift the source of energy to other dangerous, destructive and unsustainable sources.

THEREFORE, we the Select Board of Amherst, Massachusetts, call for:

1. The continued rejection by the Vermont Legislature of Entergy Nuclear's request to continue operating the Vermont Yankee reactor for an additional 20 years beyond the scheduled expiration of its current 40-year license in March of 2012;
2. The decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee reactor on or before its license expiration date in March of 2012, to be followed by immediate efforts to decontaminate the reactor site, employing current workers at full pay and utilizing the safest and most effective technologies available;
3. The development and implementation of strategies for full re-employment of displaced workers after decontamination operations have been completed; and
4. Immediate efforts on the part of individuals, businesses, municipalities, and state governments to replace the electricity now provided by the Vermont Yankee reactor with a combination of energy conservation and efficiency measures and sustainable sources of power that are safe, renewable, and affordable, and that provide safe jobs at livable wages.

We further direct the Amherst Select Board, upon passage of this resolution, to send copies to Amherst's State Representative, State Senator, Congressional Representative, U.S. Senators, the Governor of Massachusetts, and the Vermont Senate, House of Representatives, and Governor, with an accompanying cover letter stating that this resolution was passed on (date) by the Select Board of Amherst.

VOTED AND DATED this 20th day of April, 2011.

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May 18, 2011

Honorable Governor Deval Patrick
Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor
Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Vermont Yankee license extension

Dear Governor Patrick:

At the April 20, 2011 meeting of the Amherst Select Board, the enclosed resolution opposing the license extension for Vermont Yankee was endorsed by unanimous vote.

Thank you for taking note of our concerns on this critical health and safety issue.

Sincerely,

Stephanie J. O'Keeffe
Chair, Amherst Select Board